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even as complete a collection as Cheyney's *Readings*. The sources utilized are mainly chronicles and memoirs, and consequently almost wholly narrative. In fact a short selection from the dooms of Alfred gives the sole approach to anything of a constitutional or technical nature. The selections seem almost elementary as compared with the American collections, and are evidently designed rather for the purpose of awakening a love for the reading of the sources than for the study of historical problems. Typographically the volume is a model of what such a book should be. In marked contrast with the cramped appearance of the leaves of the American sourcebooks are its large-typed, well-spaced, and easily read pages. The usefulness and attractiveness of the work are further enhanced by some thirty well-chosen illustrations. Periods and events not usually stressed in American schools are well represented, e.g., the reign of William Rufus, the border warfare of the Scotch and English, and the French wars of the reign of Henry VIII. This, in addition to its fitness for enlivening supplemental reading, will give the book value to those already possessing copies of the American sourcebooks.

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COMPOSITION

Handbook of Commercial English. By IVA L. LYERS WEBBER. Boston: The Palmer Co. Pp. iii+171.

This book undertakes to outline for commercial students a practical course in composition. It is suggestive and helpful for classes in technical high schools, but hardly suitable for students of college rank. The core of the book is "Correspondence."

Representative Essays in Modern Thought: A Basis for Composition. By H. R. STEEVES and F. H. RISTINE. New York: American Book Co. Pp. iii+533.

The authors belong to the comparatively new school of teachers who believe that *ideas*, not literary models and set exercises, should be the point of departure in teaching composition. The essays they have chosen are suitable for college students in the second semester of Freshman English. The selections, nineteen in all, are made from Arnold, Huxley, James, Mill, Morley, Tyndall, Hobhouse, and others.

Practical English Composition. By CAROLYN M. GERRICK and MARGARET CUNNINGHAM. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. Pp. iii+428.
\$1.00.

The text is somewhat of an innovation in that it treats description as a form simpler than narration. Using these two forms as the "whole composi-